Justice Reinvestment Advisory Board



Subject: October 2018 Meeting Minutes

Date: October 18, 2018

1:00-2:00 p.m.

Board members: Dr. Valerie Barnes, Bill Gaertner, Michele Hughes, Nicholas Katz, Alicia Leibowitz, Crista Taylor, Anthony Washington

Absent: William Adams, Kimberley Barranco, June White Dillard, Toni Holness (represented by designee), Crista Taylor, Caryn York (represented by designee)

The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP): Angelina Guarino, Don Hogan, Jessica Wheeler, Jeffrey Zuback, Ashley Richards

I. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Senior Director Angelina Guarino and introductions of new Board members were made. The Board reviewed minutes from the June meeting.

II. Implementation Updates

GOCCP provided the Board with key updates from the JRA implementation process, primarily the continuing downward trend of the statewide prison population, the active supervision population and the number of open supervision cases. With regards to the new JRA revocation caps, the proportion of sentences outside the caps recommended by JRA has fallen from 17% to 11%.

Administrative release is fully functional and having the greatest immediate impact on local jurisdictions whose eligible inmates are released more quickly than the larger pool of eligible inmates within state detention. Medical releases are not being awarded at the same level, though a number have been awarded, while no inmates have qualified for geriatric release. Generally, JRA is having a beneficial impact on the size of sentenced populations on the local detention level, and has decreased 6% since JRA's sentencing effective date. The board raised the questions of inmate race and ethnicity tracking on the local level to determine how much JRA population changes are being reflected

equally across all demographics. At this time, monthly reporting to the state from local detention centers does not contain individual level records or any demographic information. Pretrial detention continues to account for nearly 69% of the statewide detention population on average.

III. Local Jail Program Inventory

Board members reviewed the local program inventory and recommended expansion of the survey to incorporate capacity of local programs to better inform expansion recommendations. Representatives of victims services organization identified the need to incorporate more trauma informed programming for individuals with history of intimate partner violent and sexual assault who also have a co-occurring substance use disorder. The lack of documented capacity of programs of this type targeted towards women was identified as a major gap. Board members recommended potential expansion of Abuser Intervention Programs and other evidence based domestic violence prevention programs in addition to anger management programs, which do not adequately address intimate partner violence. There is a need to better survey the utilization of medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in local corrections as well as within the state corrections system, as not all programs using evidence-based treatment interventions are making MAT available. To complement the local government commission's expansion of this inventory, the Advisory Board will develop a recommended list of evidence-based programs to assist local decision makers in their decision making, and facilitate inreach of existing community programs into detention centers.

IV. Data Collection Standards

The Board reviewed the varying standards of documenting race and ethnicity in police, court, corrections and supervision records, as well as how Maryland's current terminology differs from nationally reported data from federal and professional corrections organizations. Board members considered ideal intercept points for race documentation, and highlighted the importance of using non-adversarial interactions where individuals were not in crisis, and individuals have the opportunity to self-identify. Although not currently possible due to isolation of databases, the Board recommended comparison across systems to identify levels of concurrence between multiple criminal justice datasets, exploring programs to train law enforcement in new identifiers, and the ability of later assessors to correct records where race is mis-identified or poorly documented. Due to current efforts statewide for expansion of electronic record keeping within court and law enforcement systems, the Board focused on the national standard set by NIBRS, which would be the earliest identification in justice involvement. Adoption

of the NIBRS standard and consistently requiring data collection would standardize Maryland's system.

V. Good of the Order & Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. The Board will follow up with year end recommendations and continue reviewing data standards across Maryland to better recommend changes as part of JRA reporting.